

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : WALKER et al.
Serial No. : To Be Assigned
For : REGULATION OF INTRACELLULAR
GLUCOCORTICOID CONCENTRATIONS
Filed : Concurrently Herewith
Examiner : To Be Assigned
Art Unit : To Be Assigned

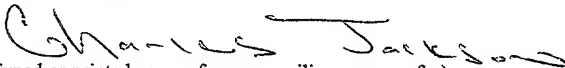
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Box Patent Application

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-referenced application, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before the first paragraph, please insert thereat:

2002 FEB 22 10 58 AM '02

--REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional application of allowed U.S. Application Serial No. 09/029,535, filed February 27, 1998, which is the National Stage application of international application PCT/GB96/02134 filed August 28, 1996, published as WO 97/07789 on March 6, 1997, and claims priority from British Application 9517622.8 filed August 29, 1995. Reference is made to U.S. Application Serial No. 10/061,044 filed January 30, 2002 as a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/029,535. Reference is also made to four additional applications, also filed as divisional applications of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/029,535 on February 22, 2002, application numbers to be assigned, (Attorney docket numbers 674543-2001.2, 674543-2001.3, 674543-2001.5 and 674543-2001.6).

The above-mentioned applications, as well as all documents cited herein and documents referenced or cited in documents cited herein, are hereby incorporated herein by reference.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims 1-13, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents.

Kindly add new claims 14 and 15, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents:

--14. (New) A method for determining whether a compound or composition is a regulator of intracellular glucocorticoid activity in adipose tissue comprising determining whether said compound or composition inhibits reductase activity of 11-Beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase 1 (11-Beta HSD1) in said tissue.

15. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein determining whether said compound or composition inhibits reductase activity of 11-Beta HSD1 comprises:

obtaining reductase activity of 11-Beta HSD1 in an isolate *in vitro*

adipocyte cell population, and

contacting said compound or composition with said adipocyte cell population.--

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please accept the enclosed page entitled "Abstract".

REMARKS

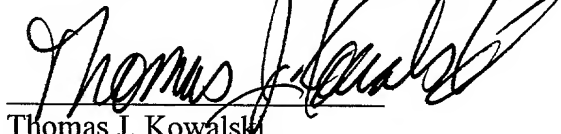
The amendments made herein serve to place the application in better form for prosecution by including the lineage of the application as well as by meeting the requirement for inclusion of an abstract on a separate sheet.

No new matter is added. The amendments to the claims find support throughout the specification.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:


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